Compliments of W. Pattullo.

THE CANADIAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

ITS ANNUAL HOLIDAY

THE EXCURSION PARTY OF '85

"A SMALL SOUVENIR."

WOODSTOCK:
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To the junior and of course more poetic and susceptible members of the Canadian Press Association is always left, and quite properly, the task of adequately describing the annual holiday of Canadian journalists. To the representative of the SENTINEL-REVIEW this is a gratifying circumstance, for time and space seem to have combined to prevent anything but the merest mention of the many places, people and things of interest, pleasure and profit that contributed to make the excursion of 1885 the most picturesque, enjoyable, and it is to be hoped also most profitable that has occurred within the memory of the oldest member of the time-honored association.

The Canadian Press Association was organised in the year 1869, so that it can now boast of having passed its first quarter of a century, and a good quarter too. With its origin and early history are associated nearly all of the journalists, living and dead, who have become most distinguished in their profession and not a few of whom have also adorned the Parliamentary halls and great councils of the country by their presence and services. Few if any greater names are inscribed upon the honor roll of Canadian achievement than will be found in the list of journalists who, turning aside from a professional path, or rather following along a double path, have given their services to the State or to the nation.

Apart from this, the Canadian Press Association has just cause for pride in the fact that largely through its instrumentality, important reforms in the laws affecting newspaper postage, libel and other matters of mutual concern have been secured from successive Governments and Parliaments.

Nor is the least important part of the Association's work the pleasure and profit derived by members from its annual excursion. Upon this point there is sometimes evinced a disposition, even among those well disposed, to depreciate if not to condemn, this annual outing, as being merely aimless and profitless junketing tour, at little or no expense. This is, and to all worthy members of the Association ought to be, an entire misapprehension. Only thoughtlessness, ignorance, or flippant malevolence could suggest the contrary. Journalists like other people require an annual holiday. They work quite as hard as a majority of their fellow-men; their work is of a varied, sometimes vexing, and nearly always rather difficult character; they have, as has been well said, more brains and more poverty than any other single class of the community. Why, then, should not the be-worried and wearied journalist betake himself to the mountains, the woods or the seaside for a week's rest? And why should he be expected to devote that week to business, the elevation of the profession, or of the benighted human race, while other people, forgetting dull care, are whiling and frolicking away their time, just as every unhappy child of Adam should do for at least one week out of fifty-two annually? But, as a matter of fact, the Press excursionists really do accomplish useful results during these excursion tours, aside from the profit of a pleasurable holiday and the commingling with men and things, to them bright, new and interesting. All who have participated in these trips know that most interesting discussions are had *en route* anent topics that concern the journalistic fraternity, and from these discussions there invariably comes good to the individual member and to the Association at large.

But this by the way. We began with the purpose of saying something about the excursion of 1885. And it well deserves to have something and something good said of it. The route was delightful,—short, varied, picturesque, attractive. *Multum in parvo* best describes it, and perhaps this feature was the only one to which objection could be offered. There was really too much to be seen. One grew tired attempting to take it all in, and of course dissatisfied because it was impossible.

But not only was the route attractive and picturesque; the party was pleasant and agreeable. The muster roll as inscribed by Secretary Climie was as follows: G. R. Pattullo, president, and daughter, SENTINEL REVIEW, Woodstock; J. A. Davidson, 1st vice-president, Mercury, Guelph; Mrs. Snider, Berlin; Wm. Watt. Jr., 2nd vice-president, and wife, Expositor, Brantford; W. R. Climie, secretary-treasurer, and wife, Sun, Bowmanville; J. M. Eastwood and Miss Eastwood, Times, Hamilton; C. Murton, Times, Hamilton; J. E. Davis and daughter, Advocate, Mitchell; J. C. Dent and wife, Globe, Toronto; C. C. James, Kosmos, Cobourg; Miss Balmer, Oakville; W. Weld and wife, Farmer's

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Advocate, London ; H. Hough, Grip, Toronto ; Miss Weld, London ; C. E. Chadwick, Tribune, Ingersoll ; Thos. Hilliard, Chronicle, Waterloo ; Miss Snider, Berlin ; P. E. W. Moyer and wife, Daily News, Berlin ; J. J. Crabbe, Argus, St. Marys ; Miss Sawder, Berlin ; R. Mathison and wife, Ontario, Belleville ; C B. Robinson, Canada Presbyterian, Toronto; F. H. Annes, Chronicle, Whitby ; Miss Thomas, Bowmanville ; H. P. Moore, Free Press, Acton ; Wm. Climie, Jr., Banner, Listowel ; Miss Drewry, Listowel ; B. Way and wife, Institute, Hamilton ; N. King and daughter, Gazette, Barrie ; L W. Shannon, News, Kingston ; John Motz and daughter, Journal, Berlin ; Dr. Pattullo and daughter, Times, Brampton ; Dr. Fulton, Lancet, Toronto ; J. King and wife, World, Toronto ; J. J Cove, Advocate, Woodville ; W. W. Butcher, Advertiser, London ; J. C. Drewry and wife, Express, Napanee ; J. Shannon and wife, Chronicle, Kingston ; D. Rose and wife, Churchman, Toronto.

The annual meeting of the Association was held at the Rossin House in Toronto on Tuesday, Aug. 4th. Having disposed of routine business, the election of officers, and receiving the President's annual address, the party crossed over to the Island to visit Lakeside Home, a beautiful charity founded by J. Ross Robertson of the Toronto Evening Telegram, where, under the superintendence of Mrs. McMaster, whose womanly graces and executive qualifications admirably fit her to discharge the duties of a position to which she has generously proffered her services, the sickly and delicate little ones enjoy the best of care and experienced nursing, and at the same time are refreshed and strengthened by the cool and balmy lake breeze. All were deeply interested and much impressed with what they saw, and before retiring the Association, through the President, expressed their gratification that one of their craftsmen should have been prompted to apply a part of his surplus earnings to so noble and beautiful a charity Unfortunately few Canadian journalists have thus far found themselves able to be charitable, outside of their own homes, and Mr. Robertson's case is consequently quite exceptional.

From Toronto to Montreal nothing of interest occurred save a comfortable ride by G. T. R., a bad night's rest to most of the party and the poorest of breakfasts to all in the morning at what is called the St. James Hotel, but whose bill of fare does not remind one of St. James or any other saint.

The ride through the mountains of Vermont over the Central Railway gave the party an excellent opportunity of seeing the chief attraction of the Green Mountain State. The day was fine and the scenery beautiful. Montpelier, the capital of the State, is a typical New England town—clean, neat and inviting in appearance. It is beautifully situated and the State House and Pavilion Hotel are among its leading attractions.

From Montpelier to Mount Washington, the chief of the White Mountains in New Hampshire, occupied a delightful forenoon, scores of tree-topped mountains, beautiful villas, and lovely summer resorts having been passed *en route*

Mount Washington was a central point of interest, pleasure and wonder to the members of our party. It is the highest of the wonderful White range, its height being over a mile—6,293 feet.

"Gray searcher of the upper air !
There's sunshine on thy ancient walls—
A crown upon the forehead bare—
A flashing on thy waterfalls—
A rainbow glory in the cloud,
Upon thy awful summit bowed,
Dim relic of the recent storm !
And music, from the leafy shroud
Which wraps in green thy giant form,
Mellowed and softened from above,
Steals down upon the listening ear,
Sweet as the maiden's dream of love,
With soft tones melting on her ear."

We ascend it by railway, the centre rail being a ladder over which runs a cog wheel. This gives the "grip" necessary to make the ascent possible. Otherwise the car would of course slip. The engine pushes instead of draws up the car, for only one car goes up with an engine. The railway, which in its windings is about three miles and a half long from the base to the summit of the mountain, is known as Jacob's ladder. The regular fare up and down is $6. We greatly enjoyed the journey both ways, although some of the more timid of the party were glad enough when the ascent was over. Vegetation on the mountain is an interesting study. It grows less and less vigorous as you ascend, the trees and shrubs being almost bare on the side next to the mountain (just like a tree that grows next to a building) until it ceases entirely and one sees nothing save stone and rock. The atmosphere grows cold also as you approach and pass up among and through

the clouds, so that when one reaches the Summit House the blazing fire and smoking supper seem most welcome.

After tea a business meeting, followed by dancing and music, the latter being made brilliant and delightful by the cheerfully rendered vocal services of an American guest, Mrs. M. P. Marchington, of Boston, and impromptu addresses in English and French, a recitation and a rendition of the Lord's prayer in the deaf and dumb language by Principal Mathison of Belleville. The evening was a most delightful one and augured favorably for the future of the trip.

At 4 o'clock next morning members of the party were awakened to get up and witness an exceptionally bright and beautiful sunrise. It seemed, indeed, as if the sun rose to order, for tourists have frequently to wait for days before they can get a sunrise that is clear and satisfactory. To paint the scene that met the eye that morning, as our party, in varied costume and shivering forms, looked from the tower, needs a poet's pen. The clouds, in every conceivable form, lay hundreds of feet below like a vast and billowy sea ; some hung upon the mountain sides ; others circled and enveloped the peaks ; others permitted the peaks to peep through ; others again floated away in fugitive and diminutive forms until lost to view. Every color and tint of the rainbow, of the earth, air sea and sky was there, from the dull leaden gray, through the white silver lining, to the bright saffron and gold that flashed and sparkled and shone like a sea of rubies right up to the orb of the sun itself. No wonder that artists are often thought to be demented about the sights and scenery of the White Mountains. They are, indeed, grand, wonderful, sublime. The panorama is one never to be forgotten.

Among the curiosities of Mount Washington, and which interested the Press party, was a newspaper, "Among the Clouds," which is published daily. Steam press and all the modern improvements. Price 10 cents per copy, without wrappers, which are two cents additional. The daily circulation during the mountain season is said to be 900. It is unnecessary to say that "Among the Clouds" is a high-toned as well as high-priced journal. Brother Hough, long of the World but now of Grip, will please not prosecute for infringement of patent !

Down the Mountain to Fabyan's, thence by the famous Mann Boudoir cars to the Profile House, the centre of the Mountain region and the finest, richest and most elegant summer hotel on the continent, passed a pleasant forenoon. The hostelry derives its name, Profile, from the "Old Man of the Mountain," formed by a succession of rocks, one in rear of the other, which form a profile of striking resemblance to a somewhat robust human face. The scenery here is the most wonderfully grand, rugged and awe-inspiring to be seen on the route. A coach drive of ten miles, four-in-hand, double-deck, over a winding road, under spreading branches of beautiful and varied trees, bright pellucid streams dashing down the mountain side over rocks, and cascades, brings us to North Woodstock. Thence through many beautiful towns and popular watering places to Boston, where were spent two days most enjoyably. It is a great city, the literary centre of the continent and the second city of the Union in point of wealth. Its chief attractions, and which were fully availed of by the members of the Press party, are the Public Buildings, State and City ; Music Hall, Museum of Fine Arts, Harvard University, Cambridge Memorial Hall, the residence of Longfellow and other poets and literateurs who have given to our American cousins a literature of their own, Bunker Hill Monument, the old elm tree under which George Washington first took command of the Revolutionary Army, Boston Common, Boston Park, the Hotel Vendome (one of the finest in the world), Commonwealth Avenue, the two latter built upon what is called the Back Bay District. This is now by far the most beautiful part of Boston. It is all made land, that is, the Bay has been filled up with refuse from the city, and earth, gravel, stone and every kind of material ; what is still more strange, the city has netted a handsome profit by the transaction, already nearly two million dollars, besides endowing, from the proceeds of sales, several colleges and charities. After visiting a cyclorama, the "Battle of Gettysburg," which is an extraordinarily realistic panorama of that decisive conflict, a short sail down the Bay to Nantasket closed the visit to Boston.

Thence up the Sound on Saturday night, in the palace steamer Pilgrim, past Naragansett pier, where Messrs. R. G. Dunn and Erastus Wiman gave a passing

welcome in the form of a pyrotechnic display, and other pleasure resorts to New York, early Sunday morning. Here a programme for three days of uninterrupted enjoyment had been prepared for the party by direction of Erastus Wiman, himself once a Canadian typo and amateur journalist. And it was carried out to the letter. No part of the great metropolis, of Brooklyn, or of their suburbs, and surroundings was permitted to be unvisited. Members of the party went everywhere, so long as strength held out. The sight-seeing, including a visit to the Stock Exchange and the Press Club, culminated on Monday afternoon, when the party assembled for luncheon on the top of the Field building, an eleven-story structure adjacent the Castle Garden, and from which the cities of New York, Brooklyn, Jersey City, and all their surroundings may be seen at a glance. Thence by ferry to Coney Island, Manhattan Beach and Brighton, as the guests of Mr. Wiman and family. An afternoon concert by the famous Gilmore Band (which complimented the Canadian party by playing God Save the Queen), a "dip in old ocean" and a banquet in the evening brought the New York visit to a brilliant close. The banquet, which was princely as to menu, was conducted upon truly journalistic principles. No formal toasts, no set speeches. Merely informal, hearty, bright and brilliant addresses of welcome by Mr. Wiman and Amos Cummings, President of the New York Press Club, and a brief reply by the President of the Canadian Press Association, fittingly followed by "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the Queen."

Tuesday morning good-bye was said to New York, and a delightful sail up the Hudson with an interesting meeting of the Association on board the beautiful steamer Albany, brought the party to the Capital of the State. Its State building is its chief attraction, although the Park and some of the streets are pretty. From Albany to Niagara Falls is a night's ride, and once again on Canadian soil, the party is met and welcomed by Col. C. S. Gzowski, A. D. C., chairman, and his fellow commissioners, under whose auspices and those of the Hon T. V. Welch, Superintendent of the New York State Reservation, members of the Press party enjoyed a rare opportunity to see for themselves what a unique and wonderful attraction Nature has provided in the Falls of Niagara, and of learning from the Commissioners what their plans and purposes are in endeavoring to restore, as far as possible, so interesting a shrine to its pristine condition, and give free access for its enjoyment to all mankind.

At Hamilton the party separated, delighted with having participated in a holiday so enjoyble, and grateful for their safe return to home and country, for assuredly, be it ever so humble there's no place like home.

CURSORY COMMENTS.

Boston journalists through their Press Club tendered fraternal hospitalities to their Canadian brethren and, as did also their New York confreres, upbraided them mildly for not permitting themselves to become guests of the Club.

The Boston Press is hardly less progressive, interesting and enterprising than that of New York. Several of the papers there, we were glad to learn, have proved financially successful to a high degree.

Canadian journalists can hardly fail to profit by their visit, brief though it was, to these great metropolitan centres of business and newspaper activity. What a splendid school these cities are, with their bright bustling business men, and quick, pushing, brilliant journalists, alike for the practical, slow-going, everyday working man and for the student, statesman, or philosopher.

Compared with the American Press, outside of New York city, the Canadian Press is fairly creditable, always bearing in mind the larger field which the former supplies. London and New York furnish the best newspapers in the world.

The members of the Canadian party were gratified to make the acquaintance and receive the courtesies of Mr. A. M. Stewart, of that excellent journal the Scottish American, which has always enjoyed a wide circulation among Canadian Scotchmen. Mr. Stewart is a fine type of the educated pushing Scotchmen, who have done so much for the States, for Canada and for themselves on this continent—indeed, both at home and abroad.

The Canadian Club opened its hospitable doors to the Press party, many of whom recognized among its members old friends who have settled in New York. The prospects of the Club under Mr. Wiman's presidency are most promising,

and its location is both convenient and attractive.

The Hon. L. S. Huntington, ex-Postmaster-General of Canada, was warmly greeted by the party, who recognized in him a former fellow journalist of distinction. Having recuperated his health, he will probably soon return to Canada and to journalism.

Canadians in New York, indeed all over the States, seem to push their way to good and frequently prominent positions.

The brethren all regretted that they did not have an opportunity of making the personal acquaintance of Whitelaw Reid, Chas. A. Dana, J. G. Bennet, brother Pulitzer, Jones and others of New York's most distinguished journalists. They would have been pleased to give these belated but aspiring and ambitious brethren some "pointers" about running a newspaper.

At the meeting of the Association held going up the Hudson, the President announced his intention to offer a Gold Medal for the best equipped office and best managed Provincial weekly newspaper in Ontario, the same to be awarded by a board of regents or judges, after an examination similar to that made by the Provincial judges of Model Farms.

The Press party will not soon forget the services of Mr. Barrett, Mr. Wiman's private secretary, who so efficiently chaperoned the party while in New York; We apprehend, however, that he esteemed himself amply repaid by the agreeable company that it was his privilege to enjoy !

John L. Sullivan, Boston's famous bruiser, had a narrow escape during the Press visit. A deputation of the party called 'round to see him at his saloon, but fortunately (for him) he was out. Otherwise he might have been knocked out in one round, for we had our 6ft. 2½in. fighting editor along.

The White Mountain bar-keeper, who unfeelingly charged a prominent member of the party 25 cents per glass for brandy, would doubtless have lowered his rates had he recognized him to be, when at home, a consistent teetotaler and a Scott Act advocate.

To quiet the old maidenly super-loyalists, who may see danger to the Empire in the Press visit across the lines, it may be mentioned that all New York and Boston bachelors were strictly forbidden to talk Annexation to the fair members of the Canadian party. No such restriction was imposed upon the Canadian bachelors, who seemed to be very agreeable companions to the American belles.

No record of the trip would be complete that did not recognize the exquisite pleasure afforded the members of the party by Mr. L. S. Shannon's rendering of "Poor little Doodledy Do." It was a vocal triumph, as were his bewitching smile and tear-starting weep real works of art.

Below are the officers elect for the current year :—President, John A. Davidson, Guelph Mercury ; First Vice-President, Wm. Watts, Brantford Expositor ; Second Vice, H. E. Smallpiece ; Secretary, W. R. Climie, Bowmanville Sun ; Treasurer, J. B. Trayes, Port Hope Guide ; Executive Committee, Geo. Tye, Brampton Times ; C. D. Barr, Lindsay Post ; Jas. Somerville, Dundas Banner ; J. B. Trayes, C. Blackett Robinson and G. R. Pattullo.

The following sketches of the President and Secretary of the Association for the year 1884-5 appeared in the Toronto Evening Telegram of the 4th Aug.:—

Mr. George R. Pattullo, of Woodstock, the President of the Association for 1884-5, is a native Canadian, having been born at Burnside, township of Caledon, county of Peel, in the year 1845. His parents were Scotch, his father being a native of Aberdeen, and his mother of Eckford, Roxboroughshire. Her only surviving brother, Robson, of Lauder, has been for over fifty years a widely known Scottish clergyman. His family removed to the township of Blenheim, county of Oxford about thirty years ago, where shortly afterwards his mother was left a widow, to manage the farm and rear a family of ten children. Following the example of Scottish people generally, such means as could be spared were devoted to the education of the children, and at the age of sixteen, with the purpose of giving him a profession, George began his studies at the Woodstock grammar School, so long under the successful management of Mr. George Strauchon. Later on he spent a year in Toronto Grammar School, under the rectorship of the late Dr. Howe and the Rev. Dr. Wickson. In 1865, at the Christmas examination, he passed as first classical boy, Mr. Alfred Baker, the present Dean of University,

being the mathematical boy of the same year. He subsequently attended for a time University College, but circumstances prevented his completing, as he desired, a full university course. While spending vacation at home his services were subsequently secured as teacher of the neighbouring school and he continued in this for three years, when he was offered and accepted the editorial control of the Paris Transcript. This was his first formal introduction to journalism, although he had previously been a frequent contributor to the press. In the autumn of 1870 he purchased the Woodstock SENTINEL which, some years later, was amalgamated with the REVIEW, and with which, having had associated with him his youngest brother Andrew, he has since been identified. Under their management the SENTINEL-REVIEW has long ranked amongst the first weekly journals of the Province.

Mr. Pattullo evinced a political bent from his earliest years, and having frequently taken an active part in local political contests, he was in 1876 asked to become the general political agent of the Liberal party as secretary of the Provincial Reform Association. This position he filled during the Dominion campaign of 1878, and the Provincial campaign of 1879, the former of which resulted in a decisive defeat, and the latter an equally decisive victory for the Liberal party. He retired from the secretaryship of the party shortly thereafter and returned to journalism, which, indeed, he had never abandoned. In November, 1879, upon the death of the late T. Oliver, M. P., he became a candidate for the House of Commons in North Oxford, but was unsuccessful, the solid Conservative vote of the county being thrown against him at the instance of the Conservative leader who perferred his less known and perhaps less pronounced opponent, who also ran as a Reformer. When in 1883 the Mowat Goverment resolved to press the long disputed boundary question to an issue, Mr. Patttullo was sent to the disputed territory as a special commissioner and member of an advisory council in the interest of this province. He remained there until a basis of agreement was finally arrived at between Attorney-Generals Mowat and Miller, and on his return suffered a severe and prolonged illness, the result of malarial fever contracted in the country. At the close of the late session of the legislature he was selected by Premier Mowat as secretary of the Ontario Niagara Park Commission, of which Col. C. S. Gzowski, A. D.C., is chairman, and which is now engaged in investigating and reporting upon the proposed Canadian Free Park at Niagara Falls.

Mr. Pattullo was for fifteen years a member and an officer of the volunteer force. Having joined the University company in 1866, he served in the Queen's Own during that winter. He was also a cadet of the military school the same year, his certificate of examination bearing date the memorable 1st of June 66; and he was subsequently placed in charge as chief instructor of the Chicago Canadian volunteers, who under Captain Forbes, Lieut. Kingsmill and Ensign Freed, at the crossing of the Fenians, rushed over to the defence of their native land. He subsequently passed the several ranks in the Dufferin Rifles, 38th Battalion Brant, from the command of which he retired as major in the year 1880, the Government of the day at Ottawa, contrary to the unanimous wish of the officers of the Battalion and the recommendation of the deputy-Adjutant-General, refusing to promote him to the colonelcy, giving the flimsy excuse that he was not a resident within the military district.

Politically Mr. Pattullo is an advanced Liberal and favours a progressive and aggressive policy upon the part of his political leaders. He believes, with prudent and a truly patriotic effort, that a Canadian nationality may eventually be built up upon this continent; and he thinks that in this contingency Canada might safely be "left out alone over night."

Mr. Pattullo is now a widower, having in the spring of 1884 suffered the loss of his wife, a most estimable woman, wife and mother, who left surviving a large young family. He has been for fifteen years a member of the Canadian Press association, and has held all the positions in the gift of his fellowworkers. Still in the very prime of life, a career of usefulness and of success seems yet in store for him.

W. R. Climie, the secretary-treasurer of the association, was born in the township of Innisfil, Co. of Simcoe, forty-six years ago, and is consequently just in the prime of life When five years of age his family removed to Bowmanville, his father, Rev. John Climie, well-known throughout Ontario, having been called

to the pastorate of the Congregationa church from that place. In 1853 the Rev. Mr. Climie and his eldest son, John, established the Canadian Statesman, which he owned at the time of his death, when the subject of the present sketch became sole proprietor. For eighteen years he managed the Statesman successfully, but desiring a rest, he disposed of the business in 1878, and retired from journalism for five years. His profession had however, become second nature to him, and in 1883 he established the Bowmanville Sun, which he now publishes with success. Mr. Climie joined the Canadian Press Association in 1867, and for the past nine years has filled the office of Secretary-Treasurer with universal satisfaction. He has always been a conscientious Liberal, and for twenty-three years has been Secretary of the West Durham Reform Association. Mr. Climie enjoys the personal friendship and esteem of all the prominent newspaper men in the Province, whom he generally conducts on their annual excursion. He is a warm advocate of total abstinence, and has many friends among his co workers.

The following is the address of the retiring President:

To the Members of the Canadian Press Association:

GENTLEMEN,—The recurrence of another annual meeting imposes upon your President the duty of presenting for your consideration the customary Annual Address. For myself I would have willingly omitted what mayhap prove to be an infliction; but the time-honored custom of over a quarter of a century can not be lightly disregarded; and the unwritten law of precedent, the very basis of all British institutions, must not now be violated. An address from the President's chair of the Canadian Press Association has come to be anticipated and regarded by the members thereof in much the same light as do legislators regard that essential pre requisite of all Parliamentary legislation, the Speech from the Throne. But in justice to my esteemed predecessors in this chair, I shall not seek to suggest any additional similarity between their annual messages and those other more pretentious productions above referred to.

The official year about to close has been to this Association one of singular quietude. No pressing questions have forced themselves for settlement upon the members of your Executive, whose duties have been consequently light. Only one meeting of the Executive has been held during the year, and that chiefly for the purposes of this annual meeting and excursion. But the membership of the Association, it gives me pleasure to state, continues to steadily increase, and there are not wanting evidences of healthy and permanent vitality that have not always been visible. The daily as well as the weekly Press is becoming more fully represented in the membership, and there is now no longer any evidence of a would-be Press aristocracy in Canada that in times gone by seemed to prefer to stand aloof from the brethren who constitute the Canadian Press Association. This circumstance may fairly be cited as a proof that this Association has discharged its duties and in a measure at least accomplished the purposes of its founders. Like all other organizations it has been obliged to run the gauntlet of adverse criticism; sometimes this may have been merited; but at others it has been prompted by ignorance, thoughtlessness or prejudice. But it has outlived these attacks and the fact that its membership is now, more than ever before, representative of the Press of Canada, both daily and weekly, is a just cause for congratulation to all concerned, but especially to those tried and true members of the organization, of both political parties, who, through good and evil report, have stuck manfully to the ship and brought her safely to port. I have dwelt at some length on this point because of the circumstance that in the past the chief daily papers of the country have not always been represented in our councils, nor at the annual meetings. That this has been by them discovered to be a mistake is only what every reflecting member of the Press must have anticipated; for in the Press, as throughout the whole domain of human activities, the truth of the homely old adage is applicable: "Everybody knows more than anybody;" and the brightest of daily journalists may learn at least something from his brethren in association assembled. It gives me peculiar pleasure also to inform you that the kindly expressions of interest received from former members in this year's annual meeting, as also in the future prosperity of the Association, have been unusually numerous. I had hoped

that many of these members would manage to be with us during the excursion, and that we and they would have witnessed and enjoyed a genuine re-union of of the old veterans, whose names were prominently identified with the Press of Canada in its earliest infancy. To some extent this hope will be realized, but not a few of them, as will be learned from the communications to be laid before you, have been prevented by previous engagements or the pressure of business, private or public, from going with us.

While the ranks of the Association have been during the year steadily increasing and its general position and influence entirely satisfactory, Death, alas! has laid its hand upon us, and to-day we mourn the absence of one who in former years was wont to meet with and accompany us. The late Wm. Johnston, M. A., was not exclusively a journalist, but the bent and extraordinary activity of his mind made him for many years a regular contributor to the Press and to Literature. As a journalist, had he enrolled himself permanently in its ranks, all feel that success was assured to him, and had that all too brief life been spared, his career promised to shed lustre upon his chosen profession and would have been a reason for congratulation and of pride to this Association, by the members of which, not less by his high character than by his extraordinary energy and solid ability, he was held in high regard.

I shall not trespass upon your time by any lengthened comments upon the Press in general or the Canadian Press in particular, upon its present position, its power or its ethics. These have been ably and fully dealt with by many of my predecessors, and in essays, addresses and papers that have been presented to the Association. But perhaps I may be permitted to make brief reference to a few kindred topics, rather by way of endorsing and emphasizing what may have often before been well said to you.

It can be no longer questioned that during recent years the Canadian Press has made rapid and creditable advance ment Steam, gas, the telegraph and telephone, and the highest mechanical ingenuity have combined to revolutionize the Press, and to make it the marvel of development that it is now universally conceded to be. Nor have these improvements been confined to the metropolitan, or daily press. By no means. Provincial and local journals have also caught the spirit of the times and can now boast of offices and of newspapers which for completeness of outfit and excellence of management were twenty-five years ago utterly unknown in the best daily offices of the land. It is claimed also, and with good reason, that the conduct of at least the Provincial Press is more spirited and less dependent than in early years. These are all matters for sincere felicitations, but admitting for the Canadian Press all that is claimed, the true journalist will nevertheless ask, Is it now all that it might be? Have we, as journalists, reached the highest limit of perfection in the conduct of our journals? Have we risen to the full measure of our usefulness, and do we adequately realize the fact that the wonderfully increased facilities now at our disposal for the "making" of a newspaper have correspondingly increased our responsibilities? And that our present efforts cannot therefore be fairly compared with those of our predecessors, who were obliged to do everything by hand; and who, perhaps, were also compelled to combine in their own persons the duties of editor, reporter, compositor, pressman and "devil?" These are questions which naturally suggest themselves to the reflecting journalist, and they press for a candid consideration and a satisfactory solution.

A reply in detail must be left to your individual or collective consideration, but you may permit me to remind you of what has frequently been suggested to you before:—It ought to be the fixed aim of every journalist to make his calling better than he found it; to elevate and to secure for it full recognition as a permanent and regular profession. In the past it has too often been considered merely the stepping stone to something supposed to be higher, and the work of journalism has accordingly been too often done in a careless and perfunctory manner. This is to be regretted and ought to be remedied. I would not proscribe journalists from entering upon other callings, private or public; but I would have them realize the fact that in few, if any spheres of human activity, can they discharge more important, honorable or higher functions in the interests of mankind. The "uncovenanted servants of the people," as journalists have been described, we may and should be in the truest sense their rulers in all that makes for the advance-

ment of civilization, the maintenance of liberty, and the freedom of our fellowmen. This should be the aim and the aspiration of every journalist, and the profession that affords the amplest scope for the accomplishment of these grand and beneficent purposes ought never to be by him considered less important, desirable or honorable, than the vocation of prince, potentate or parliamentarian.

So much for what I deem to be the proper aim of journalists and of journalism. Let me refer to a few points of a practical character, a consideration of which may be practicable, and I hope profitable, during the progress of our proposed trip.

This Association has been in the past instrumental in securing legislative amendments and executive changes immediately affecting its material interests, which were necessary and which have proved beneficial. The postage law and the law of libel have both been improved, alike in the interests of the public and of the publisher. But recent events admonish us that the law of libel is still in an imperfect condition and that amendment is necessary upon at least three important points. I shall not attempt, except in general terms, to outline what the needed amendments should be. Uniformity of the law of libel, as regards prosecution in civil actions, in all the Provinces of Confederation, is in my opinion desirable. The law ought also to be amended so as to compel a responsible prosecution. The purpose of this is not to protect the reckless, malicious or unscrupulous journalist, who may make use of his columns to injure the innocent ; but it is designed to protect the conscientious journalist, who unwittingly, or in the faithful discharge of a public duty, may have given offence to some irresponsible party, male or female, who has merited perhaps a much severer castigation than has been administered ; but who may be able, by the aid of some briefless and mischievous attorney, to worry the publisher and force upon him the defence of an action. Whatever the result of such action may be, the publisher is the loser, for, as many members of this Association know by dearly bought experience, he is always obliged to pay his own costs, be the verdict for or against him. This is manifestly unjust and no real injustice would be done to either private or public interest if security for costs were by statute required before a libel suit were allowed to proceed. The third amendment that I would suggest is in harmony with the opinion that in many quarters has recently been expressed anent the obvious injustice and hardship imposed upon a journalist of this Province by compelling him to defend an action for criminal libel in another Province of the Dominion. One can easily see how harsh a measure of oppression such a procedure might become. The publisher of a newspaper in Ontario, who has a single subscriber in the Province of British Columbia, could be dragged away over the Rockies to the Pacific coast to defend himself. The expense of conveying the necessary witnesses for the defence, himself and counsel, that distance would simply bankrupt average journalists, who are not as a rule lineal or lucky descendants of Crœsus. The proposition is monstrous, at all events without a *fiat* from the Attorney-General of the Province, or an order from a Superior Court Judge on application and on giving the accused publisher due notice. But Canada is not alone in having such a procedure attempted. A similar attempt, happily unsuccessful, was made in the United States a few years ago. In that case the projected libel suit was against Mr. Chas. A. Dana of the New York Sun. The purpose of it was political, the plan of the conspirators being to take Mr. Dana out of the jurisdiction of the State of New York and carry him for trial to Washington, where an administration was in power that did not regard him with favor. But the conspiracy was defeated by a constitutional argument addressed to the United States District Court in New York City, without whose assent and order it was impossible to transport the person accused beyond the limits of New York. The Court held that the law of libel, as it then existed in the District of Columbia, was unconstitutional in that it proposed to try the case without a jury, whereas the federal constitution guaranteed that in any accusation where, upon conviction, the punishment partakes of an infamous nature the accused shall be entitled to a trial by jury. Upon this ground Judge Blatchford held that the law was invalid, and all proceedings under it fell to the ground. Whether the same ground of objection would be held valid under existing Canadian law I do not presume to say ; but this I do affirm, that if the case now in

process of action in Ontario is not unconstitutional, it is certainly unreasonable, harsh and tyrannical, and in this regard the law should be immediately amended. I would respectfully suggest the appointment of a sub-committee of your Association to consider these needed amendments to the law of libel ; and, if deemed necessary, this committee should be empowered to retain the services of a solicitor, who could prepare an amended bill and assist in securing its sanction by the House of Commons.

Many other matters suggest themselves for discussion, but your time and patience forbid me entering upon them—except the merest mention of one or two.

While the general tone of the Ontario Press continues to improve, there is still, I regret to confess, a habit in certain quarters of disregarding the impersonality of journalism and speaking of adversaries by name. Nor is this objectionable and reprehensible practice confined to obscure or unimportant journals. On the contrary, several of those that rightly claim to be the leading organs of both political parties are among the offenders. Let us hope that the gentle admonition of this Association and their own sense of propriety and their pride of profession will unite to dissuade these offending brethren from a continuance of this offence.

Another practice still in vogue, but not perhaps so common as in years gone by, is the pernicious method that some publishers have of securing subscriptions by a species of gift enterprise. It is difficult to speak with moderation of so unprofessional and undignified a method of beguiling the unwary subscriber. This Association has already declared it to be disreputable and it may also be fairly described as in most cases positively dishonest. The peripatetic sleight-of-hand man who, in addition to his wonderful feats of legerdemain, offers to his audience a vast variety of costly presents, from a tea service to a cradle or a chamber set, is usually found to provide a meagre entertainment ; and in like manner the publisher who, in addition to his paper, presents a "costly" chromo to his subscribers deceives the latter either as to the cost of the chromo or as to the real value of his paper

Then, as to the Editorial conduct of the Press, a change of circumstances suggests a change of policy. In the days of stage coaches, no railway, telegraph, nor telephone, the city Daily did not materially interfere with the position and functions of the Provincial or Local newspaper. This is no longer so. The foreign and general news, and many also of the current editorial topics, have been received and discussed by the public before the local papers are in print. This is a disadvantage, and what is the remedy ? I would suggest more systematic attention to local news and the discussion of local interests. These will be found in abundance by the quick, bright and energetic journalist. He ought to be a leader of thought, not political thought merely, for that tho' important is not the first qualification of a successful and useful journalist; but in the promotion of education, agriculture, manufactures, commerce and indeed everything that goes to make up the advancement and happiness of the people ; and it is given to few men to do more effective service to the State in this regard than to the local journalist. His remuneration may not be so great as to others who are less deserving ; but he may be satisfied in a consciousness of important duties well performed.

Suggestions have frequently been made looking to the better equipment of those who propose to enter the ranks of journalism. Without recapitulating these suggestions, may I suggest that the Canadian Press Association might give practical proof of its desire in this respect, and in such manner as would accomplish the desired result by founding in say, Toronto University, a Scholarship for competition upon appropriate subjects by intending journalists.

I cannot conclude this already too lengthy address without alluding briefly to the new, and it is to be hoped rare, experience that our auxiliaries in the press, the reporters, have recently undergone. I refer to their vocation as war correspondent. And it gives me pleasure to bear testimony to the creditable way in which many of them discharged the exceedingly difficult duties pertaining to a war correspondents. The campaign was happily too brief, and the character of the engagements too commonplace, to develope or give scope to the genius of a Russel, a Forbes or a Cameron ; but it must be said in justice to the correspondents who accompanied the recent Northwest Expedition Force, that their work seems to have been done carefully and conscientiously ; and, in not a few instances, their letters were spirited

and creditable specimens of war correspondence.

Nor in this connection, can I close without a brief, tho' inadequate, tribute to the Canadian Volunteers who have so speedily and successfully brought to a close the unfortunate rebellion in the Northwest. By their patient endurance, extraordinary marches, genuine heroism and ready submission to discipline, they have demonstrated that Canadian boys are the stuff from which true British soldiers may be made, and they have earned the undying gratitude of both Queen and country. Let us hope that their sacrifices and services have not been made in vain ; but that the result of the unhappy emeute may be to knit more closely together the several members of Confederation and to develope a truly broad, fraternal and national spirit among all Canadians.

Grateful for the high honor which my brethren have conferred upon me by their unamimous election to this chair, and anticipating for them and for my myself the pleasure of a peculiarily attractive annual excursion, I am, Gentlemen,

Faithfully and Fraternally Yours,

G. R. PATTULLO,
President.

"Burnside," Woodstock, Aug. 4, '85.